

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 02377 170924 Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

NIC-01 SAJ-01 GAC-01 ACDA-19 MBFR-03 RSR-01 /130 W

----- 087511

R 170902 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3976

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 2377

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, UR

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV AND POLISH- FRG RELATIONS

REF: WARSAW 2336

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THE POLISH PRESS CONTINUES TO CARRY ARTICLES HAILING BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO POLAND AND THE GDR, AND A MAJOR ARTICLE IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY SAYS THAT BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO BONN WILL IMPROVE THE WHOLE PROCESS OF NORMAL- IZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND COUNTRIES OF THE " SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH". ZYCIE WARSZAWY' S EDITOR, WHO WROTE THE ARTICLE, HAS VOICED TO US PRIVATELY RATHER LIMITED EXPECTATIONS OF WHAT BREZHNEV CAN DO FOR POLAND IN BONN, AND SAYS THERE IS NO THOUGHT HERE OF A SECOND WARSAW VISIT BY BRANDT. END SUMMARY

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PAGE 02 WARSAW 02377 170924 Z

2. TRYBUNA LUDU ON MAY 16 CARRIED A FRONT PAGE PAP REPORT OF A PRAVDA ARTICLE ON BREZHNEV' S TRIP TO POLAND AND THE GDR, EMPHASIZING UNITY AND CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG THE COMMUNIST PARTIES OF " SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES. THE SAME PAP DESPATCH REPORTED THAT IZVESTIYA HAD PRINTED THE TEXT OF THE " RESOLUTION" OF THE POLISH CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COUNCIL OF STATE AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ISSUED AFTER BREZHNEV' S DEPARTURE (REFTEL).

3. ON THE SAME DAY, THE WARSAW DAILY ZYCIE WARSZAWY CARRIED A LONG ARTICLE ON POLISH- WEST GERMAN RELATIONS BY ITS EDITOR, RYSZARD WOJNA. REFERRING TO BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO BONN, WOJNA STATED THAT THE POSITIONS OF THE WARSAW PACT STATES HAVE BEEN COORDINATED AND THERE IS NOW UNFOLDING A " NEW STAGE IN THE DIALOGUE OF THE USSR, POLAND AND OTHER SOCIALIST STATES WITH THE FRG". BREZHNEV' S VISIT TO THE FRG, HE SAID, SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED SIMPLY IN TERMS OF BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND THE SUCCESS OF BREZHNEV' S TALKS WITH BRANDT WOULD HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE WHOLE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION BETWEEN THE FRG AND POLAND AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE " SOCIALIST COMMONWEALTH".

4. WHEN QUESTIONED BY AN EMBASSY OFFICER ABOUT THE ARTICLE, WOJNA DESCRIBED THE " NEW STAGE" AS ONE IN WHICH THERE WAS A TENDECNY FOR NATIONAL INTERESTS OF WARSAW PACT STATES TO DIVERGE SOMEWHAT IN THEIR RELATIONS WITH BONN. IT WOULD APPEAR, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY SO, THAT THE CURRENT STRONG EMPHASIS ON " UNITY" (AND NO DOUBT IN PART THE PHRASEOLOGY OF HIS ARTICLE) IS AIMED AT COUNTERACTING THIS TREND.

5. IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH THE EMBASSY OFFICER, WOJNA DISCLAIMED ANY EXPECTATION THAT BREZHNEV IN BONN WOULD VIGOROUSLY PROMOTE POLISH INTERESTS. IT WOULD BE ENOUGH, WOJNA SAID, IF BREZHNEV WOULD MERELY TELL BRANDT THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED THE POLISH POINT OF VIEW. WOJNA ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS NO TALK HERE ABOUT A SECOND BRANDT VISIT TO POLAND AND THAT I WAS TOO EARLY TO SAY WHETHER GIEREK WOULD BE GOING TO THE FRG THIS YEAR.

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PAGE 03 WARSAW 02377 170924 Z

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ONE CANNOT ASSUME THAT WOJNA WAS SPEAKING WITH FULL AUTHORITY ON THIS MATTER, HE IS AN IMPORTANT AND KNOWLEDGEABLE JOURNALIST, WITH A PARTICULAR INTEREST IN GERMAN Y, AND A CANDIDATE MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. WHETHER OR NOT HIS EXPRESSED VIEW OF THE LIMITED EXTENT OF WHAT BREZHNEV WILL DO FOR POLAND IN GERMANY ALSO REFLECTS THE LEVEL OF EXPECTATION OF THE

POLISH LEADERSHIP, HIS APPRAISAL SEEMS TO BE A
REALISTIC ONE.

7. WE HAVE HEARD NOTHING MORE SO FAR THAT SHEDS FURTHER
LIGHT ON SOME OF THE MURKY ASPECTS OF BREZHNEV' S VISIT
HERE, BUT IN ENDEAVORING TO COMPREHEND THE STILL PUZZLING
PHENOMENON OF THE POLISH " RESOLUTION" WE THINK THE POS-
SIBILITY IS WORTH CONSIDERING THAT IT MAY HAVE BEEN DONE
AT BREZHNEV' S REQUEST. WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE HERE OF
WHETHER BREZHNEV WOULD HAVE NEED OF THIS PARTICULAR
EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT, AND WE WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY
MOSCOW' S VIEW, BUT WE NOTE THAT THE POLES HAVE GONE ALL
OUT IN VOICING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE DECISIONS OF THE
APRIL 26-27 PLENUM OF THE CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE, AND THE
PERSONAL ACCLAIM ACCORDED BREZHNEV DURING AND IN CON-
NECTION WITH HIS VISIT HERE WAS, BY LOCAL STANDARDS,
EXTREMELY HEAVY.
DAVIES

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NMAFVVZCZ

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